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In re Application of : OFFICE OF PETITIONS : OFFICE OF PETITIONS

Application No. 10/020,799 : ON PETITION

Filed: November 30, 2001 :

Attorney Docket No. 22112 (3)

This is a decision on the petition under 37 CFR 1.137(b), filed March 14, 2005, to revive the above-identified application.

## The petition is **GRANTED**.

The above-identified application became abandoned for failure to reply in a timely manner to the final Office action mailed December 30, 2003, which set a shortened statutory period for reply of three (3) months. No extensions of time under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a) were obtained. An Advisory action was mailed March 31, 2004 indicating that the reply filed on February 20, 2004 failed to place the application in condition for allowance. Accordingly, the application became abandoned on March 31, 2004.

It is not apparent whether the person signing the statement of unintentional delay was in a position to have firsthand or direct knowledge of the facts and circumstances of the delay at issue. Nevertheless, such statement is being treated as having been made as the result of a reasonable inquiry into the facts and circumstances of such delay. See 37 CFR 10.18(b) and Changes to Patent Practice and Procedure; Final Rule Notice, 62 Fed. Reg. 53131, 53178 (October 10, 1997), 1203 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 63, 103 (October 21, 1997). In the event that such an inquiry has not been made, petitioner must make such an inquiry. If such inquiry results in the discovery that it is not correct that the entire delay in filing the required reply from the due date for the reply until the filing of a grantable petition pursuant to 37 CFR 1.137(b) was unintentional, petitioner must notify the Office.

There is no indication that the person signing the instant petition was ever given a power of attorney or authorization of agent to prosecute the above-identified application. If the person signing the instant petition desires to receive future correspondence regarding this application, the appropriate power of attorney or authorization of agent must be submitted. While a courtesy copy of this decision is being mailed to the person signing the instant petition, all future correspondence will be directed to the address currently of record until such time as appropriate instructions are received to the contrary.

The petition satisfies the requirements of 37 CFR 1.137(b) in that petitioner has supplied (1) the reply in the form of an Amendment and a Request for Continued Examination (RCE); (2) the petition fee of \$750; and (3) an adequate statement of unintentional delay.

Telephone inquiries concerning this decision should be directed to the undersigned at (571) 272-3229.

The application matter is being forwarded to Technology Center 1600, Art Unit 1616 for processing the Request for Continued Examination under 37 CFR 1.114 filed with the instant petition.

Retta Williams

**Petitions Examiner** 

Office of Petitions

Office of the Deputy Commissioner

etta Williams

for Patent Examination Policy

cc: Steven J. Goldstein

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